

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 01421 211925Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1421

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN) PFOR PARM ENRG BR US
SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S SUBSTANTIVE TALKS IN BRASILIA

REF: STATE 039032

1. IN VIEW OF BREVITY OF DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT AND OVER-
RIDING NEED TO DEAL THOROUGHLY WITH THE NUCLEAR ISSUE, WE
SUGGEST DEPUTY SECRETARY LIMIT NON-NUCLEAR TOPICS HE WILL
RAISE TO TWO OR AT MOST THREE BILATERAL ISSUES, WITH EVEN
THESE TO BE DEALT WITH ONLY BRIEFLY AND IN GENERAL TERMS. WE
EXPECT THAT SILVEIRA MIGHT PREFER THAT TALKS RANGE EXTENSIVELY
OVER VARIETY OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ISSUES SO AS TO
AVOID WHAT MIGHT BECOME A TOUGH DETAILED DISCUSSION OF NUCLEAR
ISSUE AND TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT
INTERNALLY AS, NOT SO MUCH AN OCCASION FOR US ADDRESS TO NUCLEAR
ACCORD, BUT AS ONE MORE IN SERIES OF CONSULTATIVE TALKS WHICH
GOVERNMENT HAS USED EFFECTIVELY TO VOICE ITS CONCERNS ABOUT ISSUES
OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO BRAZIL. OTHER FACTORS COUNSELING
LIMITED AGENDA ARE SILVEIRA'S OWN LOQUACIOUS, DISCURSIVE STYLE
IN BILATERAL TALKS OF THIS SORT, WHICH CAN CONSUME CONSIDERABLE
TIME WITH ONLY LIMITED FORWARD MOTION, AND PROSPECT THAT HE
WILL HAVE SOME NON-NUCLEAR ISSUES OF HIS OWN TO RAISE.

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2. OF ALL NON-NUCLEAR ISSUES, BRAZILIANS WILL BE MOST
INTERESTED IN FUTURE OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU).
WE BELIEVE DEPUTY SECRETARY SHOULD RAISE THIS POINT EARLY ON.
THE LETTER OR LETTERS WE ASSUME DEPUTY SECRETARY WILL BE
BRINGING WOULD BE EASY AND LOGICAL JUMPING OFF POINT FOR
DISCUSSION OF MOU AT OUT SET OF FIRST MEETING WITH SILVEIRA.

3. DEPUTY SECRETARY COULD THEN INITIATE BRIEF AND GENERAL DISCUSSION OF TRADE ISSUES WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HIS AWARENESS OF NUMBER OF TRADE BILATERAL PROBLEMS EXISTING BETWEEN US AND BRAZIL AND IMPORTANCE OF THOSE PROBLEMS TO BOTH SIDES. HE COULD EXPRESS HIS SATISFACTION THAT FINANCE MINISTER SIMONSEN WILL BE SEEING SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL IN EARLY MARCH IN WASHINGTON. (IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EMBASSY RECEIVE SOONEST BLUMENTHAL REPLY TO SIMONSEN ACCEPTING MEETING IN WASHINGTON IN EARLY MARCH.) DEPUTY SECRETARY MIGHT CONTINUE BY NOTING THAT BLUMENTHAL-SIMONSEN MEETING WILL BE AN OCCASION FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF TRADE PROBLEM WITHIN THE AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY IN KEEPING WITH THE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENT SET FORTH IN THE 1976 SIMON-SIMONSEN COMMUNIQUE, WHICH IS CONDUCTED WITHIN THE OVERALL FRAMEWORK OF THE MOU. HE SHOULD ADD THAT, WITH REFERENCE TO THE MOU, WE HOPE FOR AN EARLY MEETING OF THE BILATERAL SUB-GROUP ON TRADE. DEPUTY SECRETARY SHOULD EXPRESS HIS AWARENESS THAT MOST PRESSING CURRENT TRADE PROBLEM FOR BRAZILIANS IS HOW EXPORTS TO THE US, NOTING THAT RECOMMENDATION FOR IMPOSITION OF QUOTAS ON SHOES IS NOW BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. HE MIGHT NOTE THAT BEFORE FINAL DECISION IS REACHED THE SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE HAS INVITED BRIEFS FROM INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS OR PRIVATE INDUSTRY OR EXPORTER AND IMPORTER REPRESENTATIVES. WE SHOULD AVOID BEING DRAWN MUCH FURTHER THAN THIS INTO TRADE ISSUES. DEPUTY SECRETARY COULD POINT TO ABSENCE OF ANY TRADE SPECIALISTS ON HIS DELEGATION AS REASON FOR AVOIDING MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS.

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4. BY THE TIME OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT CONGRESSIONAL HEARING WILL HAVE BEEN HELD ON COFFEE PRICE INCREASES. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SHOULD REASONABLY EXPECT AND BE PREPARED TO RESPOND IN GENERAL TERMS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE HEARINGS OR ABOUT WIDER US RESPONSE TO SHARP COFFEE PRICE INCREASES.

5. ON ALL OTHER SUBJECTS MENTIONED IN REFTEL DEPUTY SECRETARY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND BUT SHOULD NOT TAKE INITIATIVE. IN CASE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, WE RECOMMEND NO INITIATIVE IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, UNLESS DEPARTMENT PREFERS OTHERWISE. IF HUMAN RIGHTS IS RAISED BY EITHER SIDE, DEPUTY SECRETARY SHOULD SAY THAT WE ARE AWARE OF PRESIDENT GEISEL'S POLICY TO CURB HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND THAT WE HOPE THAT THOSE IMPROVEMENTS IT HAS YET YIELDED SO FAR WILL BE CONSOLIDATED AND EXPANDED.

6. SEPARATE TELEGRAM ON PRESS AND PROBABLE QUESTIONS (PARA 4 - REFTEL) WILL FOLLOW.
CRIMMINS

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